IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

BARNADO, M., et al.

Appl. No.: 10/623,802

Filed: July 22, 2003

For: Method

Art Unit: 1641

Examiner: 5302

Atty. Docket: 0618.054.0003

Confirmation No.: 5302

Customer No.: 57904

REPLY and AMENDMENT under 37 C.F.R. §§1.111 and 1.121

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action of October 21, 2006.

A three month extension of time is hereby requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a). Appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(2) for a three month extension of time are hereby authorized to be charged to deposit account number 50-3120. It is not believed that any extensions of time are necessary beyond what may be submitted with this communication. If additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), and any fees required, including fees for net addition of claims, are hereby authorized to be charged to account number 50-3120.

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the claim listing, which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.

A paper copy of a sequence listing is appended hereto after the Remarks section.